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## The Pan American (2000-10-05)

Ryan R. Henry

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**Who do you think won the presidential debates?**

Page 4

## NEWS

■ The University of Texas – Pan American will host a reception for the newly created Angel Investor/Promise Fund today at 4:30 p.m. in the International Trade and Technology Building. The Promise Scholarship Fund encourages donations to scholarships benefiting students in any of the six academic colleges or university staff, or to the Greater University Fund, which is comprised of unrestricted gifts to meet special needs. Angel investors are affluent individuals or organizations providing entrepreneurs with venture capital. For more information, contact Blanca Coronado at (956) 318-5301 or e-mail to debbygrant@panam.edu.

## SPORTS

■ The University of Texas – Pan American Athletic Department recently announced the kickoff of the 2000-01 Adopt-A-School Program with a luncheon at the University Ballroom. Athletic director William Weidner reiterated the department's commitment to the Adopt-a-School Program at the event. "The Adopt-a-School Program is indicative of our athletic department's continued commitment toward community involvement and service," Weidner said. Ten elementary school participated in this year's program.



The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

# THURSDAY

October 5, 2000

## An Inside Look:

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- Eladio's Picks .....9



# Permit Imposter

## Student fined for fraudulent parking permit

By Melissa Soto  
The Pan American

A UTPA student who cut his permit to resemble a circular reserved permit found his vehicle with a wheel lock Tuesday. University police say the individual said he cut his square

permit as a joke. The student, who parked in lot F (near the fieldhouse), had to pay a fee to have the wheel lock removed, and a \$25 citation fine for violating the university's Parking and Traffic Rules and Regulations Handbook.

"It is considered by university

policy an altered or forged document," said Jay Carey, UTPA assistant police chief. "Because of that, we do confiscate it. He's going to have to get a replacement for it, and I don't think he'll do that again. What may seem like fun can get them

See **PERMIT** page 4

University police photographed the altered permit Tuesday afternoon in Lot F (near the fieldhouse).



—Susanna Guerrero/The Pan American

Physical Therapy sophomore, Jason Guerra, looks over his medical terminology flash cards Tuesday afternoon. Guerra feels studying this way is better than just looking at the book. "This way, I can review each term individually, instead of looking at a page of cluttered words," Guerra said.

# Campus works to boost voter activity

By Daniel Garcia Ordaz  
The Pan American

## UTPA Campus Becoming Politically Involved

In efforts to give students and the UTPA campus a voice in the upcoming national, state, and local elections, the university is sponsoring several political events.

"That is exciting for us to be able to encourage students to vote," said Clara Aguilar, vice president of the Student Government Association.

SGA accepted a request from Channel 5 and will sponsor the KRGV Vote Van today from noon to 2 p.m. in the University Center Snack Bar. The van is a mobile voter registration project.

"The deadline is just around the corner," said Aguilar, referring to the October 7 cut-off date for registration. "I hope students and staff take the opportunity to register to vote."

The Political Science Association (PSA) will host a "Meet the Candidates" forum

See **ACTIVITY** page 4

# Presidential forerunners square off in debate

## Freeman: Bush still gained from his defeat to Gore

By Eladio Jaimez  
The Pan American

Texas governor George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore faced off Tuesday night at the University of Massachusetts for the first of three presidential debates. PBS's Jim Lehrer served as moderator.

Political Science professor Samuel Freeman said Bush didn't hold his own against Vice President Al Gore, but still gained from the debate.

Freeman explained Gore did a better job of debating, but Bush exceeded expectations by not blowing the debate.

"Bush is not a debater," Freeman said. "He didn't look bad, but wasn't good."

Freeman said Bush won on some key issues concerning the military and foreign affairs.

"I wouldn't use force in Yugoslavia," Bush said during the debate. "It's not in our nation's best interest. I would use policy or put pressure on them. I would use force if our territory was being threatened."

Bush stood firm on the issue of foreign policy. He argued that it's time for a change in Commander-in-Chief in this country, and proposed a one billion dollar pay raise for the military.

See **DEBATE** page 4



# October 5

2000



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## Letters policy

Letters to the editor must include your name, address, and phone number. They will be printed on a space available basis.

# Opinion

letters ■ editorials

## Letters to the editor

# Graduate student questions ad

To the editor:

I was taking aback to see a full page advertisement of tobacco company (page 12) on this week's *The Pan American* (Oct 3, 2000). As a student newspaper of the

University of Texas – Pan American, I feel you should not be printing any tobacco or liquor related advertisements.

Ironically, it appears on the weekly discussing about

university policy – I wonder what is the university policy on these advertisements appearing on the university newspaper.

– Akash Dania,  
graduate student

## The editor's view

# Short-sighted response

## Newspaper violates privacy in push for voter action

**By Ryan R. Henry**

The Pan American

Americans have a right — some would say a duty — to vote in elections. Likewise, the right to refuse to participate in elections reserves equal protection under law.

Yet, *The Brownsville Herald* on Sunday printed a 12 page special insert listing the names of Cameron County citizens who were eligible to vote but have not registered.

The Cameron County Elections Administrator provided the *Herald* with the information because, the newspaper read, they wanted to “clean up our voter rolls.” The special edition also read, “We are one of the first counties in Texas to take the initiative in providing this opportunity to its voters.”

The “opportunity” amounts to little more than an chance to cry to non-registered voters, “Shame on you!” But shame on *The Brownsville Herald* for printing a 12 page section accomplishing little more than a commercialized violation of individuals’ rights to privacy.

Did the newspaper consider the repercussions of what it has done? Of the names on the list, which people could not register to vote because they were incapacitated, bedridden, receiving cancer treatment, or have recently past away? Obviously, irresponsibility is not the only reason a citizen might not register to vote.

The newspaper naively perceived the edition as a simple way to increase voter registration. But its vision was myopic and didn’t consider how this list could affect the citizens who haven’t registered. They have been singled out, their names have been printed in the newspaper as the “non-patriotic” mass, and the newspaper showed a complete disregard to the possibility of any excuse beyond voter apathy.

To what extent will newspapers turn to using published lists to further the political agendas of others?

Ironically, *The Brownsville Herald* claims to be a libertarian newspaper — meaning it stands for less government involvement and

favours personal freedom. In fact, the corporation owning the newspaper — Freedom News — is named after that ideal.

Another Freedom newspaper, *The Monitor*, wrote in an editorial Wednesday the problem with the election was not voter registration but that voters were not well informed. In the end, this reflects poorly on the newspapers in the area who have failed to teach.

A newspaper’s job is to inform without trampling on the privacy of its readers.

But to inform readers, a newspaper’s staff must be able to think critically about issues. The staff must be able to see beyond the immediate results to what might happen later. A newspaper also points out the inconsistencies and illogical thinking in society.

As clearly evident by the special edition, *The Brownsville Herald* is incapable of seeing the complete picture. It may not understand the ramifications of what it has done, and that alone casts doubts on the newspapers ability to report the news — or inform the public.

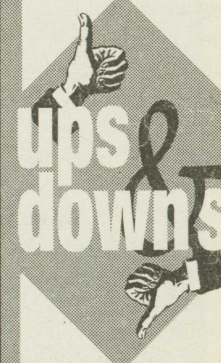
■ Thumbs up to the presidential debates.

■ Thumbs up to free pizza.

■ Thumbs up to dry-erase boards.

■ Thumbs up to getting e-mail from good friends.

■ Thumbs up to people with sideburns.



■ Thumbs down to cars breaking down when they are most needed.

■ Thumbs down to the time of month just before a paycheck — when there's no money leftover.

■ Thumbs down to commuter schools and high gas costs

# To vote or not to vote?

**By Daniel Garcia Ordaz**

The Pan American

Dr. Sam Freeman, UTPA political science professor, was quoted in our paper (Sep. 19, 2000) regarding the need for Americans to get involved in the political process.

“We’re never going to have a democratic government in this country until the American people determine to have the democracy promised over 200 years ago,” Freeman said. “We’ve fought for it! We’ve bled for it! We’ve died for it! We need to take it! It’s ours!”

Freeman is right. Voting is a duty.

Freeman also spoke to a world history class at Mission High years ago concerning war. What was not told in the news story was that Freeman is a Viet Nam veteran. He may not remember, but his eyes teared during the visit.

But why should it be necessary that this truth be told? It should not take a war veteran to remind us that freedom is sacred.

There are other visible, tangible means by which Americans display freedoms — namely allowed by the First Amendment. But the right to vote is the basic manifestation of words like “liberty”, “freedom”,

and “democracy”.

If the world holds its breath as the USA chooses its leaders — and sometimes even tries to influence the outcomes — why cannot we Americans see that elections and voting are what make our country work?

We owe it to our forefathers, most of whom, came from a different country — at different times in our history — to exercise the most important muscle Americans own: the power to vote.

We owe it to the colonists whom braved cold winters, to the slaves whom were brought forcibly, to the poor and starving families left behind in the

## Questions such as this should never have to be asked

“Mother Country”, to the Native Americans from whom we took this land, to non-citizens here and billions abroad whom have no such right.

We owe it to the Founders, the civil rights movers, the men and women who gave their lives for our country so we in Y2K would have the right to vote.

We are the “posterity” mentioned in the Preamble. We are the present, and for some time, the future of our country, and we owe it to our posterity to keep the freedom of voting alive and well for them.

Deadline to register is October 7. Why not choose to vote? That is the question.



# Q&A

**Who do you think won the Presidential debates?**

—Susanna Guerrero

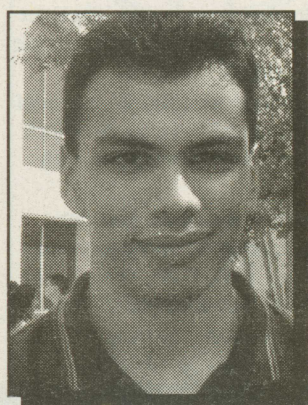


**Amelia Garcia**  
Freshman  
Education

Gore won, his plans for Medicare and fuel resources were more detailed. Bush has experience as governor to push issues, but no national experience to deal with other countries.

**Franco Quintanilla**  
Sophomore  
Sociology

I thought Bush won. He had better, more realistic proposals on the health care system.



**Danny Solanzo**  
Sophomore  
CIS

It was pretty even, basically, they overlapped each other on the things they said; neither one was ahead in any issue.

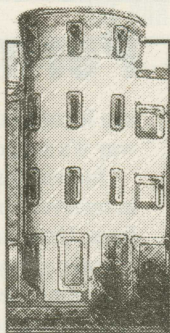
**Michelle Hays**  
Senior  
Communication

I think Bush won. His character is strong. Bush doesn't try to influence people with touchy feely arguments, just the facts.



**Stacey Hinojosa**  
Freshman  
Communication

Bush was being winey about Gore's policies and Gore just shrugged him off. I think Bush took it, but I'm still going for Gore.



# Campus

news briefs

## Spirit Week begins Monday

By Mireya Villarreal  
The Pan American

In an effort to raise school spirit, the campus will sponsor UTPA's first "Spirit Week" beginning Monday. A group comprised of students, administrators, faculty and staff formed hoping to start a new tradition on the UTPA campus.

"We're doing all of this, hoping that it will get students motivated, encourage them to get involved and be 'Bronc

Proud'," stated Cheri Klink, coordinator of student development.

The week will begin with a promotion called "Spotted with Spirit". Anyone "spotted" with UTPA paraphernalia (T-shirts, caps) throughout the week will be entered in a drawing to be held at "Midnight Madness", October 13.

Other "Spirit Week" events include a "Thursday Thriller" sponsored by UPB which will be held at the UC circle from

12 p.m to 1 p.m.

Students are scheduled to listen to a live band while they meet the men's and women's basketball coaches and athletes. Participants will also receive free food and be given the opportunity to challenge the athletes in some games.

"Spirit Week" will precede "Midnight Madness" in efforts to create campus awareness and promote school pride. Organizers hope to make "Spirit Week" an annual event.

## Number of interim chairs totals nine

Yvette Solis  
The Pan American

UTPA has nine interim department chairs and one interim dean in various departments throughout the university.

Four of the interim chairs at UTPA started the temporary positions in the beginning of the Fall 2000 semester while committees search for permanent replacements.

George Avellano, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, Graduate Studies and Research, said UTPA is not negatively affected by having chair or dean positions filled temporarily by interim personnel.

"An interim chair or dean has no restrictions when it comes to the kind of decisions he or she may make regarding the department they are responsible for," said Avellano. "We make sure that the faculty member temporarily filling an interim position has strong, capable leadership skills and can perform the job well."

The UT System's Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP), refers to the position of department chair as, "The chief academic and administrative officer of the department."

Responsibilities and duties of a department chair include: promoting faculty development in teaching, implementing university policy, recruitment of faculty and students, and coordination of the academic advising in the department among other things.

Dr. Ricardo Perez, interim chair of the Health and Kinesiology Department, temporarily took over the position after Dr. Layne Jorgensen

resigned as Chair after eleven years.

"Being Chair of a department is hard work," Perez said. "It is a job that is high stress and after a while it takes a toll on you," Perez said. "You can only hold a job like that for a certain amount of time before you need a break."

Dr. Jorgensen is currently concentrating in teaching in the Health and Kinesiology department.

Perez said that in the beginning of a search for a departmental dean or chair, the dean of that department, Provost and the vice president for Academic Affairs meet with the eligible department faculty and discuss the needs of the department.

A department search committee of three department faculty members and a student representative conduct an internal or external search for faculty to fill the permanent position of Dean of Chair said Perez.

"Often, eligible university faculty aren't interested in filling the available chair or dean positions permanently," Perez said. "These are faculty that are solely interested and highly involved in research and teaching. Therefore, the search committee is forced to do an external search to find a permanent replacement while someone volunteers to temporarily fill the position."

Perez said finding a replacement from an external search is time consuming and more expensive. The chair of a department for instance, has to be tenured or on a tenure track to be considered for the position.

Tenure provides faculty permanence of position granted to an employee after a set number

of years. Dr. Jim Holly, communications professor said that an average of six years is required before acquiring tenure, but mostly depends on the contract the faculty member signs.

In order to hire a chair or dean not currently in UTPA faculty, the search committee must create and document the need for a new position within the department said Perez.

Due to budget problems, the University takes a year to grant the department the establishment of a new position. It takes another year to advertise the available position to external candidates and to conduct the interviews as well, before a candidate is hired.

"I've been interim chair for the Social Work Department in the College of Health and Sciences for a year and am now starting on my second year," said Dr. Cavazos. "Although I understand the long process of searching for a replacement, my hope is that the university makes a decision about hiring a permanent chair soon."

"Hiring a new department chair or dean does take longer than we would like, but with salary budgets decreasing continuously every year, we are doing everything possible to quickly fill up these positions," Avellano said.

Mark Saenz, assistant to the vice president for business affairs said current numbers for non-faculty interim directors were not available.

Avellano said the decreasing salary budgets do not affect current UTPA employees but would affect how many new positions it can open every school year.



## Activity continued from page 1

Tuesday in SBSC 101 from noon to 1 p.m.

Democratic and Republican candidates for the 398 and 389 State District Court judgeships will be on hand to discuss items of interest.

"They created new judgeships," said Sonia Alianak, advisor of the PSA. "What happens then is, the governor gets to pick the judges, so he chose Republicans."

The district courts are new to the Hidalgo County area.

Incumbent Judge Ernest Aliseda (398) is being challenged by Aida Salinas Flores (D), and incumbent Judge Murray Moore (389) is being challenged by Letty Lopez (D).

"Incumbents usually have it easier," said Alianak. "But this is a good race where the Democrats may have a good chance to unseat the Republicans."

According to Alianak, the Texas Bar Association's ethical code of lawyers preclude candidates from discussing many issues. The candidates will not actually hold a "debate," Alianak said, but the audience will be able to get to know them and ask questions about the court.

"They're not supposed to talk about issue—like abortion," Alianak said. "It will just be a meeting of candidates."

The PSA is also considering sponsorship of a panel discussion between UTPA professors. Four professors, each with membership in either the Republican, Democratic, Green or Libertarian parties, would serve on the panel.

## Debate continued from page 1

"We need someone to rebuild our military," Bush said.

Gore responded with a stealth attack on former president George Bush.

"Not only when our oil is in danger should we attack," Gore said during the debate.

Freeman scored the tax issue on Gores side.

Gore kept referring to Bush's plan as favoring the wealthiest one percent of the country.

"For every dollar I spend on health care Governor Bush spends three dollars on the wealthiest one percent," Gore said.

Gore said he wants money for Medicare and Social Security to be set aside in a "locked box" and touched only for those purposes.

Gore talked about giving across-the-board free prescription drugs for the elderly. He said in Bush's plan the elderly would have to wait five years before they would qualify for free prescription drugs.

Bush did not respond well to Gore's comments and accused him of using scare tactics to get the elderly to vote in his favor.

"The man is running on Mediscare," Bush said. "He's trying to frighten people into the voting booth."

Bush also did not respond well to Gore's attacks on his tax cut plans. He said Gore was using "fuzzy math" and "fuzzy numbers" to discredit his plan.

Freeman said Bush's discredited himself by not providing his own numbers in response to Gore's.

"Bush said Gore's numbers were 'fuzzy,' but they weren't fuzzy," Freeman said. "Bush never came back with the right numbers."

The candidates discussed education and the environment as well, but mediator Jim Lehrer finished the debate by asking them each about

Audience members would be able to ascertain the reasons for each professor's membership, but the professors will not necessarily debate on party platforms

Possible participants include Polinard for the Republicans, Dr. Sam Freeman for the Green Party, and Dr. Ray Welch for the Libertarian Party.

UTPA political science professor, Jerry Polinard said 18 to 28 year-olds are not very involved in the voting process, historically.

"Even when I was young, we were the real activists," Polinard said. "But even then, we voted less than middle-aged and senior Americans, just like now."

Polinard said voter participation may be understandable, because some issues "seem pretty distant," but added the outcome affects not just seniors and the middle-aged, but young people.

"This election is a big election," added Aguilar. "This president—however wins will determine seats on the Supreme Court. It's important that students become aware of issues and what the candidates offer them."

Another project SGA may be working on is making CNN or another television news channel available in the UC Snack Bar. Aguilar said their first priority would be convincing the contractor to allow the channel change.

"Right now we're just beginning to look into it," Aguilar said. "We just want students to stay involved with politics, like with the t.v. at the library that has CNN on.

their character.

Some political analyst said Bush's comment "the buck stops in the Lincoln bedroom" was a ow blow.

Gore responded by saying he would deter from mud slinging and focus on the issues.

"You may want to focus on scndals," Gore said. "I want to focus on results."

Both candidates concentrated on getting the undecided vote. Live feeds of the debate were sent to panels of undecided voters to the University of Tampa and other schools.

Some members of the panel were quick to back a candidate immediately after the debate. However, some said they would wait for the other two debates to take place before they

"This is just round one," said a panel member from Tampa. "We have to see how the rest plays out."

The format of the debate was informal. The candidates stood behind podiums looking like twins with dark suits, white shirts and red ties. The candidates were allowed three and a half minutes on each issue. They often went over the allotted time.

Each had two minutes to answer a question, and one minute to rebuttle. Lehrer then gave them another 30 seconds to rebuttle the rebuttle.

Freeman said the informal setting favored Gore. He added the next two debates will favor Gore as well.

The second debate will have Gore and Bush sitting at a table with a moderator. The third will have a town hall setting, and the candidates will answer questions from the audience.

"Bush can especially not stay with Gore in a town hall format," Freeman said. "He's not a debator. He's not knowledgeable on the issues."

## Permit continued from page 1

in a lot of trouble. The policy says that's the way it's supposed to be; follow the policy."

Individuals who alter their permits to park in reserved spaces could be subject to two fines. Under section VII of the handbook anyone, guilty of "tampering, destroying, mutilating, defacing or altering a current permit" will receive a \$25 citation.

University police will confiscate altered permits, and individuals must purchase a replacement permit for \$5. In addition, anyone parked in an unauthorized space will face a \$15 citation.

Students who cut their parking permits to make them smaller will be facing the same consequences as far as citation fines and a wheel lock on their vehicle.

"I know that currently there are some that have been cut from the edges to make them smaller," said Eddie Morin, UTPA parking and permit manager. "That's just as bad as making it round because you're altering the permit. Students who have altered their permits in any way should get a replacement for it before they get in more trouble."

Besides the shape, the only other thing distinguishing the permits are the letters C and B. Permits for faculty contain a C in the number code, while student permits have a B.

When designing the 2000-2001 parking permits, Morin says he initially hoped to place the numbers or UTPA on different areas of the reserved and student permits. However, the printing company informed Morin his only option in differentiating the permits was to have some of the permits cut into circles.

"I thought, 'Uh-oh, we might have some trouble with that,'" Morin said. "If you go to that extent to do it, then I guess you're willing to face the consequences. It's not as easy as doing something with your hands. You have to take the time to cut it in a perfect circle, so you know there is an intent to do wrong."

Though the idea of students tampering with their permits occurred to him, Morin believed students would fight the temptation. Morin says an editorial cartoon appearing in The Pan American on October 3, drawn by editor Ryan Henry may have encouraged the student to cut his permit.

"When I first saw the comic, I was concerned because it didn't have any explanations on there, like a little disclaimer," Morin said. "So if the student saw it and didn't read anything about it they

were probably going to try it. Maybe for the students who didn't have the idea before, it gave them the idea."

Henry believes his cartoon should not be held responsible for the action of students. He says the cartoon was an observation UTPA failed to notice and avoid.

"It may have given some people ideas, but the purpose of the cartoon was to point out a problem UTPA hadn't thought about," Henry said. "The first time we saw the permit that was the first thing that we thought. Whether it inspired people to cut their permits or students had already been doing it, I don't know."

Students who violate the parking and traffic rules and regulations handbook are also in violation of the Prohibited Acts and Practices of the Student Code of Conduct (6.41;15). This means student who tamper with their permits could face disciplinary action by the dean of students. First time offenders will be place on probation. Those who repeatedly violate the rules risk suspension of parking permit and suspension from the university for a semester.

"It's always a case by case bases whenever we do disciplinary action," said Juan Perez, director of student judicial affairs. "If we find after an investigation that the student violated the rules and regulations of the university, then we will call the student in and ask them to give us their side of the story. After that based upon whatever other evidence we may have, we will decide on disciplinary action."

Perez suggests students who do not want to pay a citation fine and have a wheel lock placed on their vehicle to not tamper with their permits.

"I realize that it was an idea that came about, and I don't think the consequences were thought about at the time," Perez said. "I'm hoping that the students realize that what they may have read was simply an opinion and it should not be taken to heart."

## CLASSIFIEDS

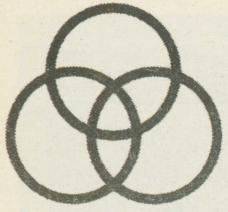
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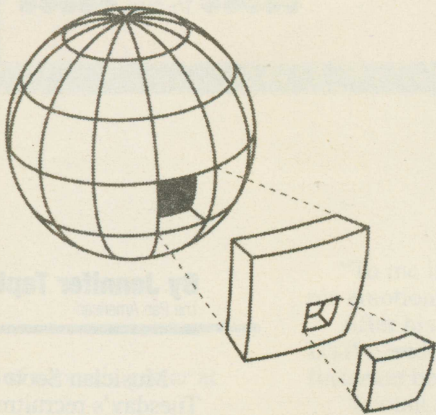


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For more information, call 800.788.2800 or visit [www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com)

Between 4 and 6 p.m. is when kids are most likely to try drugs. So keep them busy. Encourage them to try out for the basketball team. Or the school play. Or band. What matters is your involvement. Teenagers want to explore their independence, and yet want the stability provided by routines. This message is brought to you by Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

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# INNOCENT MUSIC

"I count myself as one of the luckiest guys ever. I mean, I get to do exactly what I want to do, and the way I want to do it."

— Scott Christensen  
Acoustic guitar player

*Acoustic guitar player Scott Christensen performed in the Student Union during the Fall Recruitment Fair Tuesday*

**By Jennifer Tapia**  
The Pan American

Musician Scott Christensen performed at Tuesday's recruitment fair. "I was at this school about two years, and I had a great time today, and

raised in Portland, Ore., from the 8th grade.

"I started playing guitar in the 8th grade," Christensen said. "I saw that I wanted to do what I want to do."

After getting a guitar, Christensen began to play. He and other kids who were into music they had learned from their parents. "I never took a lesson," Christensen said.

Christensen began to play guitar music, and had a chord book. "I currently writes instrumental music," Christensen said. "I currently writes instrumental music, Christensen sometimes writes around him."

"Sometimes I will be in a situation where I will see my children," added Christensen. "I would like to see the music sound like to go to the next level."

Christensen quit his teaching job to pursue music fulltime, leaving english as a second language.

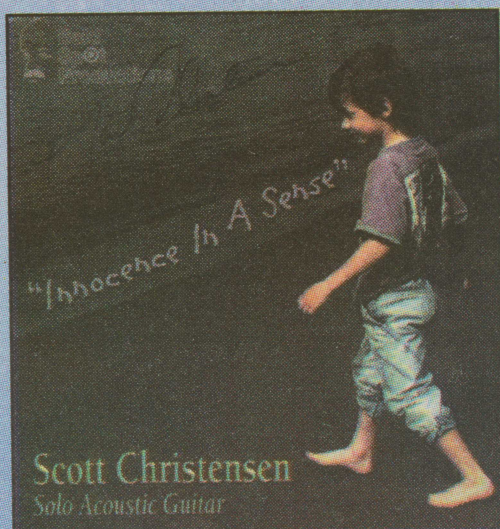
"I quit my teaching position in 1998," Christensen said. "I'm involved in the college market for the last two years."

Christensen feels that it's the best of both worlds. "Christensen feels that it's one's life because it inspires me to be involved."

Photo from inside album cover



## CD Review



**'Innocence in a Sense'** -  
CD from guitarist Scott Christensen  
●●●●● out of ●●●●●

"Innocence in a Sense," the latest CD from Solo Acoustic Guitarist Scott Christensen, combines elements from folk, coffeehouse, jazz and new age music to create a soothing and genuine sound.

Christensen's music takes listeners on a journey through heartfelt music to produce a purely enjoyable album.

His CD, based on life experiences, emotions and scenery, relaxes the mind within just a few beats.

The fifth song on the album, "Buffalo Rug" is a lullaby to his daughter Kari who used to fall asleep in his guitar case while he practiced. Other songs on the CD are tributes to people he has known or who have impacted his life in some form.

"The Road to Rosedale," the seventh song on the album, is a song dedicated to southern bluesmen, while the ninth track "Heroes In the Seaweed" is a song about his deceased father.

Overall, "Innocence in a Sense" is a beautiful album that takes the best of several types of music and creates a completely unique sound. It is an asset to anyone who enjoys instrumental music.

"To me it [music] is like love, said Christensen. "It's what it does to me emotionally. It is pure.

After his performance, Christensen said he had a wonderful time at UTPA, and that the students were very friendly. He feels that he is very fortunate because he has had a great life in the music field.

"I count myself as one of the luckiest guys ever," added Christensen. "I mean I get to do exactly what I want to do, and the way I want to do it."

Christensen presently uses a Taylor guitar, which he plays finger style acoustics. When he first started,

Christensen used a Gild guitar for 23 years. Due to the size of the guitar, he had to quit playing it because he had begun to get nerve problems on his elbow.

"It was a very big guitar, with a great big body," said Christensen. "It was my baby."

Christensen has released his record titled "Innocence In a Sense", featuring "Macau", "Falling Light", "Buffalo Rug" and other instrumental songs. His new record is available for sale on Internet sites such as [www.guitar9.com](http://www.guitar9.com), and also carries several copies with him while he tours.

As a hobby, Christensen loves to watch all kinds of different movies, he also enjoys theatre and history.

"I am a movie fanatic," says Christensen. "I go to movies all the time, but I am not much of a television watcher."

Sometimes I will be in a situation where I can see a picture or where I will see my children. And I will think 'what would the music sound like to go with this emotion?'

— Scott Christensen  
Acoustic guitar player

## September

**Thursday, October 5** SGA will sponsor the KRGV "Vote Van" in the Snack Bar from noon to 2 p.m.

**Thursday, October 5** UTPA counselors will be on hand for a free depression screening in room 513 of the Student Services Building from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers will distribute information and students who wish to be screened must complete a 20 item questionnaire before seeing a counselor.

**Month of October** Student Health Services offers various vaccines and exams for students, faculty and staff at UTPA. Events include an Influenza vaccine special Oct. 2-6, free breast exam all day on Oct. 11, Women's Wellness 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Oct. 17 and a lipid profile and free Influenza shot with a costume on Oct. 31.

**Thursday, October 5-Saturday, October 7** The UTPA Opera Workshop will present the 25th anniversary production of "The Atonement," a two-act opera in English by Rio Grande Valley composer Carl Seale. Each performance begins at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. For ticket information call the Office of Payments and Collections at 381-2715 and for special needs contact the Music Department Office at 381-3471. Proceeds benefit the UTPA Music Scholarship Fund.

**Friday, October 6** Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society "Welcome Special" in the Student Union Center Palmetto Room, 4 to 6 p.m. All members are welcome.

**Tuesday, October 10** Gamma Beta Phi monthly meeting at noon in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences room 101. Members can pick up their candy for the candy sale and membership fees are due. For more information call Zerremi Caga-anan or Eliza Garcia at 381-3461.

**Thursday, October 12** Robert Lewis, professional photographer and professor of art from the University of Memphis, will give a slide-lecture at noon in the Communication Arts and Sciences University Gallery. A reception with the artist will also be held from 7 to 9 p.m., also in the University Gallery. Lewis' exhibit "Divine Humility, Jesus Icons in Contemporary Mexico at the Millennium" is on display in the University Gallery until Friday, October 27.

**Monday, October 16** Walt Disney World College Program Information Session in the Engineering Auditorium room 1.300 at 5:30 p.m. All UTPA students are invited. There are internship opportunities in Orlando, Fla. For more information call the Co-op Office at 381-2781.

## Campus Calendar



# Clubs, organizations recruit at Student Union fair

By Yvette Solis  
The Pan American

UTPA's University Program Board (UPB), sponsored the Club Recruitment Fair on Tuesday in front of the Student Union in an effort to encourage students to participate in club activities.

Club organizations such as FIRBA, (Forum of International Relations Business Affairs), American Sign Language, ROTC, BACCHUS & GAMMA and ACTUE (Asociacion Cultural de Teatro Universitario en Espanol) were several of the organizations that participated in this year's recruitment fair.

"UPB holds recruitment fairs twice a year during the fall and spring semester in order to inform students on the options that various organizations can provide for them," said Sonia Noyola, coordinator for student development. "We also believe that belonging to a student organization or club helps increase student retention because they feel like a part of the school."

Clubs were provided a table in which to put club information. Some handed out flyers as well as bags of

candies and trinkets such as miniature megaphones. Clubs decorated their tables in creative and colorful ways in order to attract student attention.

ACTUE members also used white face paint to simulate mimes, while FIRBA used orange face paint to demonstrate club spirit.

"I think that it is important for students to participate in clubs because there are many clubs available that tie in with their future careers," said FIRBA member Cristobal Rojas. "Joining will provide them with experience."

FIRBA is a business club that also ties in with political science. Rojas said that FIRBA has gotten involved in issues such as NAFTA and has brought guest speaker Kika de la Garza to UTPA.

"I think joining a club will provide students with the opportunity to have fun, go on trips and experience campus life," said Jennifer Dudley, UTPA junior.

Noyola said the Club Recruitment Fair attracted a great number of students and expects greater success in the spring's semester recruitment fair.



—Yvette Solis/The Pan American

Brother and sister, Jesus and Denise Rodriguez, greeted students at the Club Recruitment Fair Tuesday morning. They are both members of the spanish drama club ACTUE whose members perform on campus, and where invited.

OCTOBER 9-14

## BRONC SPIRIT week

### list of events

monday, oct. 9 - friday, oct. 13

"You've been spotted with UTPA spirit!"  
(wear your UTPA gear for your chance to win some great prizes!)

thursday, oct. 12

12:00 Noon Live Band Performance \* University Circle  
FREE FOOD \* University Circle  
12:15 p.m. Performance by the Bronc Cheerleaders & Blazer Dance Team  
12:25 p.m. Meet the 2000-01 Bronc and Lady Bronc Basketball Teams & Coaches \* University Circle

friday, oct. 13

6:00 p.m. 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament \* UTPA Fieldhouse  
10:00 p.m. Finals of 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament \* UTPA Fieldhouse  
10:45 p.m. Student Organizations Sign In \* UTPA Fieldhouse  
11:00 p.m. Midnight Madness Begins \* UTPA Fieldhouse  
Performances by the Cheerleaders & Blazers  
Student Organization & Broncs 3-Point Shooting Contest  
ROTC Push-up Contest  
Greek Challenge  
Loudest fan contest  
Plus much more!!  
12 Midnight Player Introductions - Meet your 2000-01 Bronc & Lady Broncs!  
12:15 a.m. Broncs & Lady Broncs take to the floor  
\* Events are subject to change



UTPA Fieldhouse  
Edinburg, TX



www.panam.edu/athletics



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TIME: 6:00pm

LOCATION: Engineering Building  
Auditorium Room 1300

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# Break into the news



**UTPA's award-winning student newspaper, *The Pan American*, seeks enthusiastic students to report the following:**

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- Science, Environment & Health
- Politics and Government
- Arts and Leisure
- Business and Technology

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UTPA Bronco  
**Baseball**

**Write for**

**The Pan American**  
The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

**STD check-ups increase after school breaks**  
College students seek treatment more frequently following summer, Christmas, Spring Break

**UTPA's award-winning student newspaper, *The Pan American*, seeks enthusiastic students to report the following:**

**Department of**

**teleconferen**

**Miguel Liscano**



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## Eladio's Picks



Eladio Jaimez  
The Pan American

### Eladio's Picks Record

■ Last Week: 8-6  
■ Overall Record: 25-17  
■ Percentage: .571  
■ Overall Percentage: .595



### New Orleans at Chicago

Maybe this will be Ricky Williams' break out game. Ricky needs to break out of New Orleans

Saints by 6

They're their only competition in the AFC.

Titans by 17



### Buffalo at Miami

Miami has a good defense going for them. They should hold the Bills' offense enough to get them the victory.

Dolphins by 7



### Green Bay at Detroit

What happened to the big three of Green Bay, Dallas and the Niners. Detroit takes this one.

Lions by 7



### Indianapolis at New England

The Pats will be too excited after their first win to make it two in a row. The Colts are too tough.

Colts by 13



### Pittsburg at New York Jets

The Steelers got lucky with the Jags last week. The Jets are hoping not to lose any momentum from their win against the Bucs.

Jets by 12



### Washington at Philadelphia

I wonder if Deion will be giving birth to any children this Sunday. Only Deion would compare a punt return to child birth. 'Skins win anyway.

'Skins by 10



### New York Giants at Atlanta

The Dirty Bird was back last week. The Giants will be too much for the Birds to handle.

Giants by 9



### Cleveland at Arizona

Although they look impressive the Browns still have a lot of work in front of them. How 'bout the Cards get rid of ole Vince Tobin.

Cards by 7



### Denver at San Diego

Who ever thinks the Chargers can win at all must be charged up themselves. The Broncos rebound this week.

Broncos by 14



### Oakland at San Francisco

Coming off a bye week, the Raiders should be ready. Jeff Garcia has been playing descent enough for the Niners, but he isn't the QB that will lead the team.

Raiders by 9



### Seattle at Carolina

The 'Hawks lost a close one at KC. So did the Panthers against the 'Boys, but the 'Hawks were more impressive.

Seahawks by 6



### Tampa Bay at Minnesota

What a bust Keyshawn has been. For his and the teams expectations. The Vikings hand the Bucs their third straight loss.

Vikings by 7



### Baltimore at Jacksonville

The Ravens are going to make a serious run at the AFC Central. Art Modell is doing something right in Maryland. It started by hiring Brian Billick.

Ravens by 7



### Tennessee at Cincinnati

Remember these Titans. They'll be back in the Super Bowl. Unless the Colts get in their way.

**Y**ou can send your football comments to Eladio via e-mail at mamboking3@hotmail.com.





New Mexico State  
vs.  
UTPA  
(October 9 @ Las Cruces)  
Record: 6-9  
Conference: 3-1

In their latest match, the Aggies beat South Alabama in five games. Angela Lobendahn hit .370 (22-5-46) with 14 digs, which marked her sixth double-double of the season. NMSU's Amanda Olivas also added her sixth double-double with 18 kills and 14 digs.

A third Aggie having a double-double, was Robyn Shook. Shook tallied 56 assists and 15 digs, both career highs, on the afternoon.

## Volleyball ends losing streak at home

### Sports Information

The University of Texas-Pan American shook off a slow start to finish strong and defeat Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 15-7, 12-15, 15-5, 15-8, in women's volleyball action Tuesday night at the UTPA Fieldhouse.

UTPA won game one by a convincing 15-7 count, but struggled against the Javelinas in game two, which lasted nearly 45 minutes. The Lady Broncs held a 12-11 lead, but TAMUK scored the final four points of the game to win the game 15-12. UTPA came back from the intermission with a new fire and rolled to a 15-5 win in game three. They wrapped up the match with a 15-8 decision in game four.

"We had such a rough week-

end. Our biggest enemy was ourselves," said Head Coach Dave Thorn. "We were just playing with confidence, playing with aggressiveness. The biggest problem we had this weekend was our side-out game. "(Tonight) we were siding out great; we just couldn't capitalize on point scoring opportunities we had in the second game.

"The team played a lot more aggressive, and with more confidence, and that was what I talked about in the locker room between the games. I told them they were going out soft, scared, and that was why we were not capitalizing and they responded."

Debbie Puente led the offense, and the defense with 20 kills and 18 digs. Cynthia Kasper had 14 kills against just two attack errors in 29 attempts. Lorena

Lopez was also strong, posting 56 assists, a career high and the third highest single-match total in UTPA history. She also had 17 digs. Jessica Lawson had her best match of the season with 11 kills and 12 digs. As a team the Lady Broncs hit .209, while holding the Javelinas to just .070.

Corina Garza led a trio of Javelinas in double figures in kills with 15. Edinburg native Jamie Alverado had 12 kills. Julie Williams posted a double-double with 10 kills and a team-high 15 digs. The Lady Broncs broke a three-match losing streak with the win and improved to 7-11 on the season. Texas A&M-Kingsville fell to 4-13. UTPA will return to action this weekend when they travel to El Paso to face off against UTEP for the second time in a week at 7 p.m.



UTEP  
vs.  
UTPA  
(October 8 @ El Paso)  
Record: 8-5  
Conference: 1-1

In the last meeting between these two teams, the Miners beat the Lady Broncs in three games. UTEP had 10 serving aces and a .273 attack percentage.

Danielle Clark, Stacy Zimmerman and Natalie Marquell all had nine kills to lead the Miners. Clark had nine kills and zero errors in 12 attacks for a .750 attack percentage. Veronica Acosta had 34 assists, while Sarah Davis had 13 digs.

## UTPA hires Gabriel Rodriguez as assistant track coach

### Sports Information

The University of Texas-Pan American Athletic Department announced the hiring of Gabriel Rodriguez as the Assistant Coach for the Cross Country and Track & Field programs on Tuesday.

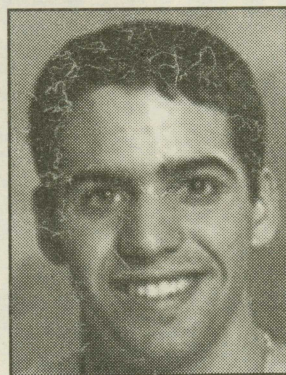
Rodriguez, a 2000 graduate of Florida International University, comes to UTPA with a wide range of experience. He was selected to participate last summer in the USOC/USATF "Hi-Lo" Research Project in Dallas, TX. There, he studied under Track & Field's leading experts, Dr. Benjamin Levine and Dr. Jim Stray-Gunderson, in altitude-based research for distance running.

As a student-athlete at FIU, Rodriguez was a four-year letter-winner and three-time captain for the cross-country and Track &

Field teams. He holds FIU school record in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, 5,000-meter, 8,000-meter and 10,000-meter. He was a nine-time All-Trans America Athletic Conference selection in cross-country and track, was named All-South District in Cross Country, was FIU's Runner of the Year twice and received the prestigious Sun Belt Medallion Award for superior performance in athletics and academics.

"His outstanding success as a collegiate athlete and his work with club teams should help him make the transition to coach," said Head Coach Dan Laufer. "The student-athletes are very excited in having him around."

In addition to his experience working at the "Hi-Lo" Research Project, Rodriguez has also worked as a Track and Field



Gabriel Rodriguez

Specialist at the Brookwood Camps in Glen Spey, N.Y. He helped to triple the amount of camp participation for track and field during his time there, and managed and coached over 300 children between the ages of 6 and 17. During the 1999-00 academic year at Florida International, he worked in the Sports Information Office as an

intern. While there he helped to redesign the FIU Athletic Web Site and worked on the production of athletic department media guides.

"I am beyond excited to be here. To put my knowledge to use at the Division I level is what I've been waiting for since I graduated. This program is going in the right direction and I want to be a part of it. Coach Laufer has brought in a great group of athletes this year and I'm looking forward to working with them. I want to help revive the Bronc Track & Field tradition of excellence," said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez is currently training for the 2001 Walt Disney World Marathon in January, his first marathon. He is hoping to qualify for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, in the marathon.

### Student-athlete career

■ FIU record holder for cross country 8K (24:38), set at the 1998 Lehigh Paul Short Run.

■ Holds track marks indoors in the 5,000m (14:52.02) and outdoor 3,000m steeplechase (9:12.89)

■ Track & Field All-Conference performer in first three years at FIU.

■ Became the first FIU male cross country runner to earn All-Region status when he finished 12th at the 1998 NCAA South meet.

■ Won the 1998 Greentree Invitational and had two other top 10 finishes, including placing third at the University of Florida's Nike Twilight Invitational.

■ Member of the conference-winning indoor distance medley relay team and finished second in the outdoor steeplechase.

■ 1998-99 Sun Belt Performer of the Week twice in cross country and once in indoor track.

## Women's golf finishes play at Invitational

■ The Lady Broncs team finishes 14th in the Lady Razorback Invitational

### Sports Information

The University of Texas-Pan American women's golf team finished 14th at the University of Arkansas Lady Razorback Invitational, Tuesday afternoon at the Pinnacle Country Club.

Freshman Melissa Head led the Lady Broncs for the second straight tournament, tying for 60th with a 256.

She shot her best round of the tournament in the final round, an 80. Fellow freshman Itziar Unanue also tied for 60th with a 256. Senior Tootie

Lauzon tied for 63rd, just two strokes back of Head and Unanue.

She shot the lowest round of the tournament among the Lady Broncs, a second round 79. Adriana Espinoza finished 68th and Jeannie Lane took 76th.

Angie Yoon of Nevada took medallist honors, firing a final round 71 to come from behind and win the title.

Kelly Dillon of Bradley led after the first day, but shot a final round 79 to fall to second place, four shots back. Meghan Ingalls of Nevada, Jil Swenson

of Bradley and Lauren Baugh of Arkansas all tied for third with 230's.

In the team competition Bradley ran away with the title, finishing with a 931. Nevada took second with a 942, Arkansas was third with a 950, Tennessee Tech was fourth with a 955 and Southern Methodist was fifth with a 970. UTPA took 14th with a 1030.

The Lady Broncs will return to action at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Ladies Golf Classic on October 16-17 in Little Rock, Ark.

## Sports Calendar

Cross Country: Southwest Texas Classic @ San Marcos

**NOTES: Both teams look to build off of the Baylor Invitational in their fourth meet of the season.**

College Football: University of Texas vs. Oklahoma University @ Dallas

**NOTES: The rivalry continues. This is the first time since 1984 that both teams have been ranked in the top 11 in the nation.**

Women's Tennis: Stephen F. Austin Tournament @ Nacogdoches

**NOTES: The Lady Broncs hope to continue their strong play in their second tournament of the season.**

Men's Tennis: UT-Arlington Invitational @ Arlington

**NOTES: The men's tennis team travels to Arlington to compete in their second tournament of the season.**

October 7  
October 7  
October 13-14  
October 13-15





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